



EXHIBIT 3
DATE 1/17/11
HB #53

January 17, 2011

Members of the House Federal Relations, Energy & Telecommunications Committee:

The Montana Emergency Medical Services Association has joins with others requesting that you pass the **HJ 3**, the request for an interim study of **statewide interoperable communications for public safety services**.

In Montana the majority of Ambulance Services and Quick Response Units are volunteers. It is extremely critical that they have a radio system that will allow coverage in all parts of their response areas. That being said, few of them have the funding necessary to update and maintain their radios as the communications world grows.

It is essential that they be able to communicate not only with their dispatch centers and hospitals, but also with any law enforcement agency or fire department that might be responding to lend assistance.

This study will help identify the needs of all agencies and how they must be able to talk to each other.

Respectfully,

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